



Beeston Urban District Council.

OFFICERS :

MR. A. KIRKLAND (Rate Collector and Assistant Overseer)

MR. W. H. REDGATE (Clerk).

MR. E. A. BUSH (Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector).

DR. F. ROTHERA (Medical Officer of Health).

MEMBERS :

MR. W. ROBINSON (Chairman).

MR. J. R. ANDERSON.

MR. W. H. PRATT.

„ JOS. ANDERSON.

„ T. SPEED.

„ GEO. BURROWS.

„ W. H. SPENCER

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„ W. H. GEORGE

„ W. THUMS.

„ G. MYCROFT.

„ J. W. WILSON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the Beeston Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Report for the year 1909, which is the 17th Annual Report I have had the pleasure of bringing before your notice. It deals, as usual, with the vital statistics and sanitary condition of the district under our control, as well as with the steps taken by your Sanitary Committee and Officials for ensuring a continuance of the good records we have achieved in the past. At the outset I would like to say that in spite of the depression in trade, and consequent lack of employment for many of our inhabitants, the statistics I shall lay before you will compare more than favourably with any of my previous Reports.

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.—For the third year in succession the weather has exercised a beneficial effect upon the public health. From the observations taken at Beeston Fields, and kindly supplied to me by G. Fellows, Esq., a full table of which will be found in the appendix, it will be seen that the mean temperature was practically 1 deg. below the average, and the rainfall 3 inches above the average. This, coupled with the fact that there were no extremes of heat or cold, has reduced the number of cases of diarrhoea, more particularly amongst the children, almost to a negligible quantity. At the other extreme of life the absence of hard frosts saved much suffering and ill-health to the old people.

POPULATION.—I am again indebted to Mr. Kirkland, our esteemed Rate Collector and Assistant Overseer, for the information that on August 1st, 1909, there were 2,001 houses in Beeston, of which 2,508 were occupied and 393 were empty. This shows an increase of only 49 new houses built during the year—a marked diminution upon previous years and a sad increase in the number of empties. The removal of Humbers to Coventry accounts for this decrease in tenanted houses, and though the works have been sold and partially occupied it will be a long time, I fear, before prosperity is fully restored to the neighbourhood. Taking, as in other years, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inhabitants to each house (the average shown in the Census of 1901), this gives us an estimated population of 11,286, which is the figure upon which I base my vital statistics for the year. This shows a decrease of 558 inhabitants upon the previous year, whereas the natural increase of population, *i.e.*, excess of births over deaths, is 180. These figures can, of course, be only approximate,

and it will be a relief when next year the Census gives us definite details to work upon. During the year there have been :—

279 births and 99 deaths as against					
317	„	„	111	„	in 1908
323	„	„	141	„	1907
278	„	„	118	„	1906
286	„	„	116	„	1905
300	„	„	155	„	1904
278	„	„	112	„	1903
267	„	„	97	„	1902
278	„	„	118	„	1901
243	„	„	99	„	1900

This gives a
Birth-rate of

24.7
26.7
26.8
24.1
26.4
28.
20.7
27.4
31.
23.8

and a Death-rate of

8.7 per 1000 per annum for 1909
9.3 „ „ „ „ „ 1908
11.7 „ „ „ „ „ 1907
10.2 „ „ „ „ „ 1906
10.7 „ „ „ „ „ 1905
14.4 „ „ „ „ „ 1904
10.7 „ „ „ „ „ 1903
10. „ „ „ „ „ 1902
13.1 „ „ „ „ „ 1901
9.7 „ „ „ „ „ 1900

BIRTHS.—Of the 279 births registered during the year, 150 were males and 129 females. Seven of these were illegitimate—4 females and 3 males. A proportion of 1 to 25 legitimate births. A birth-rate of 24.7 is low, but perhaps in times of stress such as we are now passing through this is not an unmixed evil. Apart from the fact that a low birth-rate is a sign of the decadence of a country, there can be no doubt that small families have a better chance of being brought up fit and strong, and better able to cope with the struggle for existence than obtains in the case of large families brought up anyhow, imperfectly fed, improperly clothed, and indifferently housed. The birth-rate for Nottingham for the same year is 25.6 per 1,000 per annum.

DEATHS.—That only 99 deaths took place in the whole of Beeston during the year under review speaks well for the sanitary condition of the district. Of these deaths, 45 were males and 54 females. On four of them an inquest was held, and four others were notified to the Coroner, who certified the deaths as due to natural causes. In addition to these 99 deaths of "residents within the district," the Local Government Board now requires us to add the deaths of residents taking place in institutions outside the district. I am indebted to Dr. Handford, the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that 15 of these occurred, viz., 8 in Basford Workhouse, 6 in Nottingham General Hospital, and one in the County Asylum. The addition of these 15 deaths brings up the total to 114 with a net or corrected death-rate of 10.1. The death-rate for Nottingham for the same year is 16.2 per 1,000 per annum. Of the total deaths :—

28 occurred during the 1st Quarter					
23	„	„	„	2nd	„
26	„	„	„	3rd	„
22	„	„	„	4th	„

The deaths are classed under the following heads :—

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	16	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
Diphtheria	1	1	6	3	9	12	0	2	1	0
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Erysipelas	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough... ..	0	3	3	0	0	3	0	4	5	0
Diarrhœa and Dysentery..	4	3	3	20	2	10	5	3	0	6
Rheumatic Fever	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	5	7	9	6	14	17	15	11	6	8
Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia	15	19	16	17	24	23	24	12	11	35
Heart Disease	6	6	12	8	6	8	13	11	5	4
Cancer	8	13	11	6	4	5	3	8	5	2
Injuries and Suicides	2	5	3	3	4	3	2	3	4	1
All other causes	50	48	61	53	53	66	48	41	51	39
	99	111	141	118	116	155	112	97	118	99

ZYMOTIC OR EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE.—Only 13 deaths resulted from these diseases, viz. :—Whooping Cough 6, Diarrhœa 4, Measles 1, Scarlet Fever 1, and Diphtheria 1. This compares very favourably with previous years, and represents a zymotic death-rate of 1.1 per 1000 per annum as compared with 1.01 in 1908, 2.05 in 1907, 2.1 in 1906, 1.01 in 1905, 3.08 in 1904, 0.67 in 1903, 1.1 in 1902, 3.6 in 1901, and 0.68 in 1900.

The deaths may be tabulated as follows :—

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
Under 1 year	26	32	27	41	30	47	23	25	38	23
1 year and under 5... ..	6	0	24	10	15	17	5	9	19	14
5 years and under 15... ..	4	1	11	4	5	12	6	5	6	5
15 „ „ „ 25... ..	3	6	4	4	5	7	6	5	2	10
25 „ „ „ 65... ..	20	31	38	30	31	35	41	28	32	10
65 „ „ „ upwards ...	31	32	37	23	30	37	31	25	21	28
	99	111	141	118	116	155	112	97	118	99

Of the 31 deaths occurring in persons over 65 years of age, 6 were between 65 and 70, 18 between 70 and 80, and 7 between 80 and 90 at the time of death. This again speaks well for the longevity of our inhabitants, and, since many of these were from sheer old age, helps to make our figures even more remarkable.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—It is satisfactory to note that the number of deaths in infants under 1 year of age has again attained reasonable limits. Twenty-six of these were reported, giving an Infantile Mortality rate of 91.3 per 1000 births registered. That is to say, if 1000 children had been born in Beeston during the year, 91 would have died during the first year of their existence. The average for the previous 10 years was 113.2, or, in other words, we have a saving of 22 lives during the year 1909 as compared with the average for these 10 years. While this diminution is satisfactory, there is still a sad wastage of infant life due in part to ignorance of mothers in the most elementary knowledge of the care and feeding of their babies, and in part to carelessness and inability, through poverty, to procure the requisite food for their offspring. In those places where the Notification of Births Act has been adopted

and the services of a trained nurse engaged to give the necessary instructions to young and inexperienced mothers, the results have been more than satisfactory, and I trust that in the no distant future we may be in a position to take advantage of the Act. As I have stated before in previous Reports, the adoption of the Act would serve no good purpose unless such a nurse be provided.

Following my usual plan, I give in tabular form the cause of deaths in infants, and compare them with the previous 10 years:—

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
Premature birth	4	4	5	8	8	11	5	5	4	2
Debility from birth	5	3	5	3	2	1	4	6	8	4
Bronchitis and pneumonia	3	5	2	5	6	7	5	0	8	10
Convulsions... ..	2	2	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	1
Constitutional syphilis ...	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
General tuberculosis	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
Diarrhœa	4	7	2	16	2	16	5	2	5	4
Tubercular meningitis ...	1	1	1	0	2	3	2	3	2	2
Measles	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Natural causes... ..	0	1	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0
(Coroner's enquiry)										
Whooping cough	4	3	2	0	0	1	0	3	3	0
Other causes	2	2	2	4	4	1	0	1	0	0
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	26	32	27	41	30	47	23	25	38	23

Excluding the first 9 deaths, viz., 4 from Premature birth and 5 from Debility from birth, our infantile mortality assumes an even more favourable aspect.

NOTIFICATIONS.—It is with regret I have to announce that the number of infectious diseases notified to me during the year has again risen, though fortunately it has not reached the high level of 1906, 1905, and 1904. Forty-nine of such cases have been notified during the year.

Tabulated and compared with the previous ten years, they are as follows:

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	21	5	13	53	22	31	24	45	10	70
Diphtheria	15	19	33	57	81	60	4	7	4	1
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Typhoid fever	6	1	2	3	1	3	4	6	6	10
Erysipelas	6	7	0	6	10	7	4	1	0	1
Puerperal fever	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	49	33	57	119	114	103	36	61	21	91

The average for the previous ten years is 74.

In every case of infectious disease notified to me preventive and precautionary measures are taken. These include a personal visit to the infected houses, the sanitary arrangements investigated, milk supply noted, whether work of any kind is taken in, and directions given both verbally and by a printed leaflet as to the measures to be adopted for preventing the spread of the disease. On receiving due notice that infection is at an end the house is disinfected by compressed sulphurous acid gas by one of your own staff. Disinfectants are also supplied gratis when necessary. Owing to the want of a disinfecting chamber we are sadly handicapped in carrying out these measures efficiently, and I still hope that you may soon see your way to providing one,

SMALLPOX.—For the sixth year in succession no case of this disease has been notified in Beeston. At the time of writing this Report, however, two cases of smallpox have occurred in the adjoining city of Nottingham, and it is with much apprehension I regard the situation, in view of the number of children who are escaping vaccination through the instrumentality of the "conscientious clause." Perhaps, in view of the seriousness of the case, I may be allowed to point out that in countries where vaccination and re-vaccination at or about the age of 20 are efficiently carried out smallpox has practically ceased to exist. Thus, in Germany, where compulsory vaccination was introduced in 1874, statistical information proves that smallpox has diminished progressively, and has now become so rare that in 1897 there were only five fatal cases in the whole of the German Empire, and, moreover, these occurred in the maritime towns, where, of course, the risk of outside infection would be greater. In the Prussian Army, where vaccination is even more stringent, only two deaths have occurred from smallpox in 25 years. That vaccination, efficiently carried out, with calf-lymph and with antiseptic precautions leads to any risk of life or subsequent ill-health to the child inoculated I cannot possibly believe, and statistics of all the recent epidemics prove conclusively that such a trivial operation followed by re-vaccination does confer a considerable amount of immunity to smallpox, even if it does not altogether prevent it. Scruples on the part of the State against compulsory vaccination are weak, since vaccination is useful to the individual, and directly protects the community. Parents, too, have a great responsibility thrown upon them in deciding this momentous question, since children, as yet without the power of deciding for themselves, should not be allowed to run the risk of contracting such a loathsome, disfiguring, and wholly preventible disease.

The smallpox hospital situated at Hucknall Torkard, which we share with the other Urban Authorities, is kept in a state of preparedness, and can be ready for use in a few hours. Our share of the expense of maintaining this hospital for the year is £44 17s. 4d.

SCARLET FEVER.—Twenty-one cases of this disease were notified during the year, which is a considerable increase on the figures of the previous year 1908, when only five were notified. Seventeen houses were involved, in two instances, three cases existing in one family. They were all of a mild type, only one fatal case occurring in a child 20 months old, and complicated by tonsillitis.

DIPHTHERIA.—It is consoling to find that the fight we have been waging against this disease for the last six years is at last bearing fruit, only 15 cases having been notified during the year. In one instance only the child died—an infant eight months old. So far as I can judge not only are the number of cases decreasing, but the type also is less severe. We are still carrying out all the precautions mentioned in my last five Reports, and no child is allowed to return to school until positive evidence that the throat is free from infection has been obtained. Anti-toxin is also supplied gratis to such patients who cannot afford to pay for it.

TYPHOID OR ENTERIC FEVER.—Five of the cases of this disease notified during the year occurred in one yard, and four of them were distinctly traceable to the original patient, who was also suffering from, and being treated for, Bright's disease, and in whom typhoid fever was not suspected until some days after her removal to the Nottingham General Hospital. The houses in this yard are supplied with tub closets, which are in close proximity to one another, and so long as we have this method of excreta disposal in congested and confined areas we must run a risk of such a disease spreading. No cause for the

sixth case which occurred at about the same time as the others, but at some distance from them, could be ascertained. They were all removed to the Nottingham General Hospital, and with the exception of the original case made an uninterrupted recovery. That more cases did not arise is, in my opinion, a subject of congratulation, considering the locality in which they occurred.

ERYSIPELAS.—The six cases of this disease call for no special comment.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—The one case of this disease occurred in the practice of one of my colleagues in a house which was not characterised by its cleanliness. The infection was in all probability introduced by the so-called nurse (the patient's mother-in-law), who was prohibited from undertaking further nursing duties for six weeks. The room was disinfected and the bedding destroyed, compensation for same being granted by your Council. According to requirements of the County Council, I made a full report to Dr. Handford, the County Medical Officer of Health, who approved the measures adopted.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MEASLES.—After the smart epidemic of this disease at the end of 1908 we have had a singular immunity during the year under review—only one death resulted.

WHOOPING COUGH accounted for 6 deaths, four children under 1 year of age and 2 between the ages of 1 and 5 years. This disease, by reason of its complications, can become a very grave malady, and, apart from its danger to life, few diseases give rise to so much real discomfort, both to the patients themselves and those around them. Fortunately, most of the cases occurred in the early summer months, or the mortality would in all probability have been greater. Like measles, whooping cough is a most infectious disease, and in both the infection is spread before the diseases declare themselves. Hence the impossibility of preventing periodical visitations, especially in our elementary schools, where large numbers of children are congregated together. Early closure of the infants' departments seems to be the only rational method of checking an epidemic.

DIARRHŒA.—As I explained in my preliminary remarks when dealing with the weather, the cool, damp summer we have experienced in 1909 has been again favourable in checking this disease. Diarrhœa is what we might call a "filth disease," the micro-organisms which cause the trouble getting into the food and milk, either in the form of dust or introduced by the agency of house flies, both of which are more prevalent in hot, dry weather. In my previous reports I have referred to the danger of the ordinary fly, and shown how it can carry disease germs from an outside source to any articles of diet lying about. Too much care, therefore, cannot be taken in keeping all articles of food and drink—more especially milk, which forms a very suitable medium for the multiplication and development of such organisms—in cool, dark larders, and protected by fly screens. Furthermore, all decaying vegetable matter, manure, etc., in which flies deposit their eggs should not be allowed to accumulate in the neighbourhood of dwellings.

PHTHISIS OR CONSUMPTION.—That only five deaths from this disease, and two from other tuberculous affections, occurred in the whole of Beeston during the year is eminently satisfactory. On referring to my past Reports I find there

is a gradual yet steady improvement in the number of such deaths, as the following table will show :—

		Other
	Phthisis, tuberculous diseases.	
1909	5	2
1908	7	8
1907	9	4
1906	6	2
1905	14	8
1904	17	4
1903	15	4
1902	11	7
1901	6	2
1900	8	3

Average for the 10 years 9.8 and 4.4 respectively. The death-rate from Phthisis alone for the year is 0.4, and for all tubercular diseases 0.6. These figures give us hope that the more enlightened view of Consumption long held by the medical profession is permeating to all classes, and further that its recognition as a contagious disease is beginning to bear fruit. A great responsibility also rests upon us as a Sanitary Authority in seeing that the disease germs—the tubercle bacilli—are not introduced into the system through the meat or milk of tuberculous cows. Systematic inspection of cowsheds, cows, and milk supply are carried out by us, and while admitting that much is left to be desired in the housing of the cattle as to general cleanliness and amount of air space, still improvement is gradually taking place, and we hope in time to make farmers realise their responsibility in these matters, and to conform more and more to the requirements of the Acts in force. After removal or death of a consumptive your Council is willing to disinfect the room occupied, but we must have due notice of this by the medical man in charge of the case or the patient's relations or the opportunity is lost.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations Act of 1908, and which came into operation on January 1st, 1909, three cases of consumption have been notified during the year by the District Medical Officer and the necessary steps taken by me, by means of verbal and printed instructions, to prevent the spread of the disease by infection.

MILK SUPPLY.—This subject is of such vital importance to the health of the community that no apology is needed for referring to it again. Milk forms such an important item of diet, especially to young children, that it is unfortunate it should also lend itself to so many sources of contamination and form so suitable a medium for the growth and multiplication of those micro-organisms which lead to disease. Not only can it become the vehicle for the transmission of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever, and smallpox, but now that it is an acknowledged fact that bovine and human tuberculosis are one and the same, and that the disease is communicable to man by the milk and flesh of diseased cows, phthisis or consumption must be added to the list. For these reasons, and also for the further fact that diarrhœa, which is such a fatal disease among very young children, is generally conveyed by milk, makes it incumbent upon us as a Sanitary Authority to safeguard the community to the utmost of our power. By the adoption of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops' Orders, we have now 26 of these premises on the register, and twice yearly they are inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. I have already referred to the cowsheds, pointing out that much still remains to be done before they and their surroundings can be considered in any degree perfect. Still, progress is being made in this respect, and drastic changes cannot be wrought in a day. With respect to new cowhouses where these are likely to remain permanently they should be properly constructed brick buildings, built so as to comply with the

by-laws. Wooden structures are soon out of repair, and require constant attention to keep them clean and free from dust. The insanitary cowshed mentioned in my last year's Report has since been disused. I still feel deeply that professional advice in the detection of tuberculous cows should be given us by the appointment of a veterinary surgeon to inspect all the milking cows at least twice yearly. In several neighbouring districts where this has been done, diseased cows have been discovered, and they have been either slaughtered or their milk excluded from sale. The cost of such a proceeding would not be great, and the expense more than compensated for by the detection and removal of even one diseased animal. With regard to the dairies and milk shops, very little milk is stored on the premises, most of it being delivered by the farmer direct to the retailer, and taken by him at once to the consumers. In no instance did we see milk exposed in open vessels on the counter, which is a thing to be rigidly avoided.

During the year the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, has come into operation in the district, and clauses 53 and 54, relating to infectious diseases, are applicable to all dairymen.

Clause 53 requires dairymen to furnish list of sources of supply of milk, and Clause 54 requires them to notify any infectious disease existing amongst their servants. For the information of dairymen and others (to whom a copy of this Report will be sent) the clauses are as follows:—

(1.) **CLAUSE 53.**—If the medical officer certifies to the local authority that any person in the district is suffering from infectious disease which the medical officer has reason to suspect is attributable to milk supplied within the district, the local authority may require the dairyman supplying the milk to furnish the medical officer, within a reasonable time fixed by him, a complete list of all the farms, dairies, or places from which his supply of milk is derived, or has been derived, during the last six weeks, and if the supply, or any part of it, is obtained through any other dairyman, may make a similar requisition upon that dairyman.

(2.) The local authority shall pay to the dairyman for every list furnished by him under the section the sum of sixpence, and if the list contains not less than twenty-five names, a further sum of sixpence for every twenty-five names contained in the list.

(3.) Every dairyman shall comply with the requisition of the local authority under this section, and if he fails to do so shall be liable in respect of each offence to a penalty not exceeding five pounds and a daily penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

CLAUSE 54 (1).—Every dairyman supplying milk within the district of the local authority from premises, whether within or beyond the district aforesaid, shall notify to the medical officer all cases of infectious disease among persons engaged in, or in connection with his dairy, as soon as he becomes aware or has reason to suspect that such infectious disease exists.

(2.) Any dairyman who shall fail to comply with this section shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.—For the last five years no plans of new houses with tub closet accommodation have been passed where a public sewer exists, and in consequence the number of tubs that have to be taken to the farm are stationary. 2,200 of these are removed weekly to the farm by your sanitary staff between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., where they are emptied, cleaned, disinfected, and then returned. The question of using galvanised iron

pails instead of wooden tubs is one which should be considered very carefully by the Sanitary Committee. I am fully convinced that from a sanitary and hygienic point of view the wooden tubs, after being in use a variable length of time, became uncleanable and unwholesome. I understand that Nottingham and other Corporations have entirely discarded wooden receptacles for nightsoil, and that the results have more than justified the slight extra cost. In addition to the night soil, a large quantity of trade refuse has also been removed to the farm to add to the unsightly heap already there. Owing to the slight manurial value this has, we have an increasing difficulty in disposing of it to the neighbouring farmers, and in order to get rid of it 1,500 loads were spread on the farm during the winter of 1908 and 1909. This winter, owing to the mild weather, not more than 250 loads have been so disposed of, leaving about 2,000 loads still to be dealt with. This great accumulation, if allowed to remain, will become a serious nuisance during the summer, and I would suggest that the Council take the matter into serious consideration. So far as I can judge, the only method of dealing with it is by burning it in a properly constructed destructor.

In consequence of the development of two new building estates the difficulty of dealing with storm water at the farm has been greatly increased. The 15-inch overflow pipe from the pumping station to the Trent is now much too small, and the sewers in the lower parts of the district have practically no outlet in wet weather. I would suggest that additional storm water outlets be provided. These could be connected to the nearest dykes on the farm, and I am informed by your Surveyor that this could be done at a small cost. The area used for crops during the year has been less than usual, that is to say, more of the farm has been used for its legitimate purpose of sewage irrigation. The 32 acres were used as follows:—

Fallow and Irrigation	12 1-5 acres.
Lucerne	2½ „
Oats	3½ „
Root crops	6 3-5 „
Grass	2 2-5 „

Roadways, nightsoil tip, dykes, carriers, and embankments, 4 3-5 acres.

I have nothing to add to the remarks I made in my last Report as to the desirability, even necessity, of utilising more and more of the farm for its proper purpose of dealing with the ever-increasing quantity of sewage pumped upon it, and using less of it for growing crops. I also think that the growth of osiers would be a more suitable and profitable crop to grow than roots which require much manual labour expended upon them. The value of the crops grown upon the farm, after deducting the expenses of sale was £62 18. 11d. In addition to this, crops to the value of £200 have been grown and consumed by your own horses.

I regret to say that none of the remaining 22 insanitary and antiquated middens have been converted during the year. Probably this is because the worst of these had been attended to during recent years, but while any remain they are a blot upon our boasted 20th century sanitation.

In consequence of the depressed state of our local industries, not much building has been carried out during the year. The Council have approved of the following plans:—Dwelling-houses 20, stables 3, 1 Boys' Institute (not yet erected), 1 lock-up shop, and 4 alterations and additions. During the same period 33 dwelling-houses and 1 lock-up shop have been certified as fit for occupation. Of the houses erected 20 are in streets north of the High Road.

Since my last Report the following Bye-law (relating to the occupation of new houses) has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board:—

(1.) A person shall not let or occupy any new dwelling-house until the drainage thereof shall have been made and completed, nor until such dwelling-house shall after examination have been certified by an Officer of the Council authorised to give such certificate to be, in his opinion, *in every respect* fit for human habitation.

(2.) Every person who shall offend against the foregoing Bye-law shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of five pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of forty shillings for each day after written notice of the offence from the Council.

Prior to the adoption of the above Bye-Law, confusion existed in consequence of having to take proceedings under the Public Health Act. Even the absence of a water supply did not prevent the house being occupied, but now a certificate may be refused if the house be considered unfit for occupation in any respect. I might also mention that in future all wooden or other temporary structures will require to be approved by the Council, the latter having power to prohibit their use for more than a specified time, and subject to conditions which the Council may impose.

The drains of all new houses are subjected to the water test before being certified as sound. No new streets have been laid out during the year under review.

NUISANCES.—The following complaints have been made during the year, and attended to by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bush :—Stopped up drains and gulleys 22, polluted pond 1, cesspools requiring attention 2, refuse deposits 6, Statutory notices have been served on the owners where the matter has not received immediate attention. The smoke nuisance is still occasionally a source of trouble, although not so serious as in previous years. Drastic measures will have to be taken where there appears no likelihood of permanent improvement in this wholly preventible pollution. Two cases of polluted well water have been brought before the Council during the year. In one instance statutory notice was served requiring the owner to lay in a supply for the street main, which was at once done.

In the other case (Beeston Fields Farm), although the water is still in an unsatisfactory condition, sufficient evidence of serious pollution has not been obtained at present to justify us in demanding a different source of supply. The matter, however, will receive frequent attention during the coming year.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.—I understand that the school children, and the schools themselves have been examined during the year, but as no Report has been published so far as I know, I am not in a position to say what defects have been discovered, or what steps have been taken to remedy these defects. Until some definite scheme has been devised for treating children found to be suffering from ailments, I fear little good will follow, and an Act which should have proved an inestimable benefit to the rising generation will prove abortive. Many schemes have been propounded by different authorities, but up to the present time no universal and systematic method has been arrived at.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907. has been adopted by your Council in its entirety, and should prove highly useful.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND OUTWORKERS.—Full particulars of the work done in connection with these will be found in the appendix, but it conveys in a very small degree the large amount of extra work that is thrown upon us. The systematic inspection twice yearly of the factories, workshops, and workplaces, not to mention visits paid to outworkers, is no light matter. I have explained in my previous Reports what our jurisdiction is with regard to these premises. Briefly recapitulated they are as follows :—

FACTORIES (1) —That the sanitary accommodation is sufficient, separate for the sexes, and in good working order; and (2) that adequate means of escape exist in case of fire.

WORKSHOPS.—That they are clean, well ventilated, and in good sanitary condition.

OUTWORKERS.—That no infectious diseases exist in premises in which work is being carried on.

FACTORIES.—I am pleased to report that during the year the Anglo-Scotian Mills, and most of Humber's Works have become tenanted. In respect to the latter, even when the whole of the premises are occupied the number of workmen employed must necessarily be small as compared with previous years. The sub-division of these works has necessitated extensive alterations and additions to the sanitary accommodation for both sexes. At the time of writing there are 14 separate occupiers, and each room is well provided, with means of escape in case of fire. In addition to the large number of lace menders on these premises the schedule received gives 34 outworkers. Where these reside outside the district the respective Medical Officers of Health have been notified.

One notice has been received from the Factory Inspector with regard to one of the blocks of Pollard's Factory in Cross Street. In his opinion the means of escape in case of fire was insufficient. In this case a separate exit has now been provided to each room. I should like to express my appreciation of the courteous treatment received by myself and your Surveyor during our visits to the various factories and workshops, and the readiness with which any suggestions made by us have received immediate attention.

WORKSHOPS.—Special attention has been given to the 16 bakehouses and 8 slaughter-houses. With regard to the former, excepting those built within the last few years, the floors and walls in many instances are not constructed of suitable materials. Floors laid with quarries and common bricks soon become cracked and defective. Common brick internal walls cannot be washed down as in the case of glaze brickwork, and constant whitewashing is, therefore, very necessary. Very much the same applies to the slaughter-houses which are kept in a cleanly state. In most of the workshops only a few workmen are employed. Everyone, however, has been visited, and the sanitary accommodation found satisfactory. The attention of employers was called in several instances to the fact that the workshop notice required under the Act had not been posted.

Appended are the usual Government tables.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council in general, and the Sanitary Committee in particular, for their ready acceptance of any suggestions made by me, and also to Mr. Bush, your excellent Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, for many valuable hints during the year and help in the compilation of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully

FRANK ROTHGERA, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Beeston Urban District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths registered in the district					Deaths at all Ages.				Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.			
					Under 1 year of age.												
					Number.	Rate.*				Number	Rate.*	Number	Rate.*	Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.
		Number	Rate.*	4			5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
1	2	3	4														
1899	10000	256	25.6		34	132.8			133	13.3							
1900	10185	243	23.8		23	94.6			99	9.7							
1901	8950	278	31.0		38	136.0			118	13.1							
1902	9729	267	27.4		25	93.6			97	10.0							
1903	10377	278	26.7		23	82.7			112	10.7							
1904	10692	300	28.0		17	156.6			155	14.4							
1905	10800	286	26.4		30	104.8			116	10.7					14	130	12.0
1906	11533	278	24.1		41	147.4			118	10.2					13	131	11.3
1907	12046	323	26.8		27	83.5			141	11.7					18	159	13.7
1908	11814	317	26.7		32	100.0			111	9.3					19	130	10.9
Averages for yrs. 1899-1908	10615	282	26.6		32	113.2			120	11.3					16	137	11.9
1909	11286	276	24.7		26	91.3			99	8.7					15	114	10.1

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages 8,950
 Number of inhabited houses 1,978 } At Census of 1901.
 Average number of persons per house... 4.5

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)... 1,586

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1909, and previous years.

Name of District, BEESTON (Notts.)

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.		1.—BEESTON.			
YEAR.		Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1899	...	10,000	256	133	34
1900	...	10,185	243	99	23
1901	...	8,950	278	118	38
1902	...	9,729	267	97	25
1903	...	10,377	278	112	23
1904	...	10,692	300	155	47
1905	...	10,800	286	116	30
1906	...	11,533	278	118	41
1907	...	12,046	323	141	27
1908	...	11,844	317	111	32
Averages of Years 1899 to 1908		10,615	282	120	32
1909	...	11,286	279	99	26

TABLE III. Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	0						
Cholera	0						
Diphtheria includ- ing Membranous croup }	15	1	4	6	2	2	
Erysipelas	6			1		5	
Scarlet fever	21		5	13	2	1	
Typhus fever	0						
Enteric fever	6			1	3	2	
Relapsing fever	0						
Continued fever	0						
Puerperal fever	1					1	
Plague	0						
Totals	49	1	9	21	7	11	

Number of Cases removed to Hospital—Scarlet Fever 1, Enteric Fever, 6 ; total 7.

Isolation Hospital : Small Pox Isolation Hospital, at Hucknall Torkard.

Total available beds, 12 to 20.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated : small-pox only.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year 1909.

Name of District: BEESTON (Notts).

CAUSES OF DEATH. 1	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District:						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Small-pox	0						
Measles	1		1				
Scarlet Fever	1		1				
Whooping-Cough	6	4	2				
Diphtheria including Mem- branous Croup	1	1					
Croup	0						
Fever { Typhus	0						
Enteric	1					1	
Other continued	0						
Influenza	0						
Cholera	0						
Plague	0						
Diarrhoea	1	4					
Enteritis	0						
Gastritis	0						
Puerperal Fever	0						
Erysipelas	0						
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	6				1	5	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	1	1				
Cancer, malignant disease	10					3	7
Bronchitis	9	2				1	6
Pneumonia	8	1		2		3	2
Pleurisy	0						
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs	0						
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of Liver	1					1	
Venereal Diseases	1	1					
Premature Birth	4	4					
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	2					2	
Heart Diseases	6					4	2
Accidents	1		1				
Suicides	2					2	
Debility from Birth	5	5					
Convulsions	2	2					
Apoplexy	11					3	8
Senile Decay	10						10
All other Causes	20	1	1	2	2	12	2
All Causes	114	26	7	4	3	37	37

Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District: None.

TABLE V. Infantile Mortality during the Year 1909.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under One Year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Ttl. under 1mth.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total deaths under one year.
All Causes, Certified ..		6	0	1	2	9	3	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	2	3	0	25
.. Uncertified ..																1		1
Common Infectious Diseases	Small Pox ..																	
	Chicken Pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria Croup ..													1				1
Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping Cough ..							1							1	2		4
	Diarrhoea, all forms ..							1		1			1		1			4
	Enteritis ..												1					1
Wasting Diseases	Gastritis ..																	
	Premature Birth ..	2				2	1											3
	Congenital Defects ..	1				1												1
	Injury at Birth ..																	
	Want of Breast Milk ..																	
Tuberculous Diseases	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ..	2		1	2	5												5
	Tuberculous Meningitis ..															1		1
	Tuberculous Peritonitis ..																	
	Tuberculous Tabes Mesenterica ..																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ..																	
Other Causes.	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..						1											1
	Rickets ..																	
	Meningitis ..																	
	Convulsions ..	1				1												1
	Bronchitis ..						1	1										2
	Laryngitis ..																	
	Pneumonia ..																	
	Suffocation, overlying ..																	
Other Causes ..														1			1	
Total, all Causes ..		6	0	1	2	9	3	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	2	4	0	25

District (or sub-division) of Beeston.

Population estimated to middle of 1909, 11,286.

Births in the Year	Legitimate	272.	Deaths in the Year	Legitimate Infants	26.
	Illegitimate	7.		Illegitimate Infants	0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 99.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1909, for the Urban District of Beeston (Notts.),

On the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901,
in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number of			
	On Register.	Inspections.	Writ'n N'tices	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES AND TENEMENT FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)...	26	26	5	0
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries) ...	44	44	6	0
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	0	0	0	0
Total	70	70	11	0

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied.	Ref'r'd to H M Insp'n	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	11	11		
Overcrowding ...				
Want of Drainage of Floors ...				
Other Nuisances ...				
Sanitary accommodation) Insufficient ...	12	12		
) Unsuitable or defective ..	3	3		
) Not separate for sexes ...	6	6		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s. 101) ...				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ...				
Other Offences ...				
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ...				
Total	32	32		

OTHER MATTERS.

Particulars.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	None
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	7
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	None
Other	None
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	None
Certificates granted during the year	None.
In use at the end of the year	None
	Number of Outworkers.
	Lists. Con- Work- tractors. men.
<i>Homework :—</i>	
Lace, lace curtains and nets—	
Lists received from Employers { Once in the year	0 0 0
{ Twice in the year	20 1 11
	20 1 11
Addresses of Outworkers, received from other Councils	29
Addresses of Outworkers, forwarded to other Councils	28
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists :	30
Number of Inspections of outworkers' premises ...	82
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises, (ss. 109, 110)	1
Cases of infectious disease in outworker's premises...	1
<i>Registered Workshops :—</i>	
Workshops on Register (s. 131) at the end of year	
Bakehouses	17
Slaughter Houses	9
Tailors' Shops	2
Dressmakers'	3
Plumbers'	5
Various	17
Total Workshops on Register	53

FRANK ROTHERA, M.D.,

February, 1909.

Medical Officer of Health.

THE WEATHER OF 1909.

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS

At BEESTON FIELDS, NOTTINGHAM.

206 feet above the sea level.

Readings at 9 a.m. daily.

TEMPERATURE.			RAINFALL.		
	Mean.	Above or below mean.	Total Fall.	Above or below Average.	No. of Days on which Rain fell.
			Inches.		
January	36.5	— 1.0	1.20	— .74	14
February	36.9	— 1.7	0.74	— 1.02	8
March	38.0	— 3.5	3.43	+ 1.59	18
1st Quarter..		— 2.1		— .17	
April	48.2	+ 2.1	1.53	— .15	12
May	52.1	+ .3	1.29	— .75	12
June	54.1	— 4.0	2.43	+ .39	17
2nd Quarter..		— .5		— .26	
July	58.9	— 2.8	3.88	+ 1.51	19
August	60.3	+ .6	2.67	— .12	13
September ..	53.9	— 2.0	2.99	+ 1.09	16
3rd Quarter..		— 1.4		+ 1.80	
October	50.7	+ 2.6	3.27	+ .55	23
November ..	40.8	— 1.8	0.78	— 1.29	14
December ..	38.0	— .2	4.35	+ 1.99	22
4th Quarter..		+ .1		+ 1.25	
Mean of Year..	47.4	— .9	28.56	+ 3.05	188

The wettest year since 1903

GEORGE FELLOWS.